

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01474 280610Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 HA-05 INR-10 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2541
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1474

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.)
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

REF: STATE 049333

THE GOA PLANS TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT AVAILABLE TO THE PRESS LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 1 UNDER EMBARGO IN TIME TO CATCH MIDNIGHT PRESS RUN FOR PAPERS WHICH WILL APPEAR THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 2. OTHERWISE, RELEASE AT 11:00 A.M. MARCH 1 WASHINGTON TIME PER REFTEL (2:00 A.M. MARCH 2 CANBERRA TIME) WOULD MISS BY TWO HOURS THE PRESS DEADLINE (MIDNIGHT) FOR AUSTRALIAN MORNING PAPERS.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. ANDREW PEACOCK, TODAY WELCOMED THE PROPOSED VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE, AND ANNOUNCED THAT THE VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE ON 10 AND 11 APRIL. THE
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VISIT WHICH TAKES UP THE STANDING INVITATION ISSUED BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO BOTH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT CARTER, WILL BE PART OF A TOUR OF THE PACIFIC AND SOUTH EAST ASIA BY MR. MONDALE AS THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT.

THE VISIT IS MOST SIGNIFICANT IN VIEW OF THE

PARTICULARLY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE. THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS AN EXPANDED AND INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION AND HAS ACTED AS PRESIDENT CARTER'S PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT AND SPOKESMAN ON A VARIETY OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE A PARTICULAR EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES WITH LEADERS OF BOTH THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS IN THE UNITED STATES," MR. PEACOCK SAID. "VISITS TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MYSELF AND OTHER MINISTERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS END.

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT THIS RETURN VISIT WILL FURTHER ENHANCE THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONS WE HAVE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL." END TEXT.

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